



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09 900,369	07/06/2001	Alan Weir Bucher	PU010126	6022

7590 06/18/2003

THOMSON multimedia Licensing Inc.
Patent Operations
Two Independence Way
Post Office Box 5312
Princeton, NJ 08540-5312

EXAMINER

BERCK, KENNETH A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2879

DATE MAILED: 06/18/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/900,369

Applicant(s)

BUCHER, ALAN WEIR

Examiner

Ken A Berck

Art Unit

2879

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 2/25/03.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 July 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 2879

DETAILED ACTION

Amendment A, filed 2/25/03, has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kume et al. (US 5,111,107).

Regarding claim 1, Kume discloses (fig 1) a tension mask frame assembly for a CRT with a substantially rectangular mask support frame having a first coefficient of thermal expansion and including a central major axis and a central minor axis perpendicular to each other, having a pair of opposing long sides extending in parallel to the major axis and a pair of opposing short sides extending in parallel to the minor axis each sides having an outer peripheral surface and inner peripheral surface, a tension mask supported to the frame at an attachment point along a pair of opposing sides, and a detensioning member fixed along the peripheral surface of at least one of the sides and having a second coefficient of thermal expansion.

Regarding claim 2, Kume discloses the second coefficient of thermal expansion is relatively lower than the first coefficient.

Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ragland, Jr. (US 5,932,957).

Regarding claim 1, Ragland discloses a tension mask frame assembly for a CRT with a substantially rectangular mask support frame having a first coefficient of thermal expansion and including a central major axis and a central minor axis perpendicular to each other, having a pair of opposing long sides extending in parallel to the major axis and a pair of opposing short sides extending in parallel to the minor axis each sides having an outer peripheral surface and inner peripheral surface, a tension mask supported to the frame at an attachment point along a pair of opposing sides, and a detensioning member fixed along the peripheral surface of at least one of the sides and having a second coefficient of thermal expansion.

Regarding claim 3, Ragland discloses the second coefficient of thermal expansion is relatively higher than the first coefficient.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 4-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kume et al. (US 5,111,107) in view of Ragland, Jr. (US 5,932,957) and Fendley et al. (US 4866334).

Kume discloses all of the above claim limitations, the surface the detensioning member is fixed to lies generally orthogonal to the frame plane (in relation to the plane of 4), and a pair of blade members having at least one generally central attachment

Art Unit: 2879

point, but fails to clearly point out the detensioning member fixed along the inner surface of the long sides and the frame being a continuous generally planar frame.

Regarding claims 4-11, Ragland discloses all of the above claim limitations, a CRT with a glass envelope having a rectangular faceplate panel and a tubular neck, a phosphor screen carried by an inner surface, an electron gun centrally mounted and the detensioning member fixed along the inner surface of the long sides in order to avoid mask warpage.

Ragland fails to clearly point out the frame being a continuous generally planar frame.

Regarding claims 12-13, Fendley discloses the frame being a continuous generally planar frame in order to support the mask and to have a substantially flat faceplate.

Hence it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the CRT assembly of Kume with the detensioning member fixed along the inner surface of the long sides in order to avoid mask warpage, as taught by Ragland and the frame being a continuous generally planar frame in order to support the mask and to have a substantially flat faceplate, as taught by Fendley.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 2/25/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues the Kume fails to teach attaching the tension mask to the frame at an attachment point. Examiner points out (fig 1-2) the tension mask is supported to

Art Unit: 2879

the frame at an attachment point along a pair of opposing sides. The attachment point being the opposing sides of frame 5.

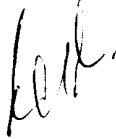
Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ken A Berck whose telephone number is (703)305-7984. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel can be reached on (703)305-4794. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)308-7382 for regular communications and (703)308-7382 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-0956.

kab
June 11, 2003


KEN A. BERCK
EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2879